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May 26, 2011

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

The Hawaii AFL-CIO supports the merger of AT&T and T-Mobile (proceeding 11-65).

In our opinion, such a move will expand and enhance the network infrastructure to Hawaii, stimulating economic development. This major expansion will require substantial investment from AT&T and that will create quality new jobs.

The outcome of this merger will also increase the availability of high-speed broadband access in Hawaii, including many rural communities on the outer islands.

The Internet has already changed so many things about the ways in which we live, work, and communicate, and access to high-speed broadband has the potential to change even more. That's why it's vital that this advanced communications technology—and all the potential it brings with it—is available to everyone. For Hawaii, this technology is a key to increased local economic development, which will help us rebound from the current economic slump.

Finally, it should be noted that AT&T has a progressive labor policy—they're the only national wireless carrier with a unionized workforce—so more workers would have the option of union representation. This merger would give T-Mobile workers the protections and bargaining power that the AT&T workers now have.

Simply put, this merger will allow more workers to have a voice in the workplace.

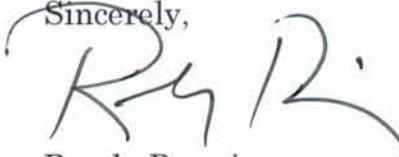
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And the work they do here in Hawaii will increase the availability of broadband, which is critical to our local economy and to workers in all industries. I hope you will support this merger. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy R.', with a large, stylized 'R' and a smaller 'y' followed by a period.

Randy Perreira

President, Hawaii State AFL-CIO

cc: Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker